

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the performance of a thorough search. By this amendment, Claims 1-2, 5-6, and 11 have been amended to more distinctly claim the invention. Claims 15-22 have been added. Claims 3-4, 7-8, and 13-14 have been cancelled. Hence, Claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-12, 15-22 remain pending in the application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,636,863 to Friesen. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-12, 15-22 are Patentable over Friesen

The Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Amended independent claim 1 currently recites:

A computer-implemented method of sharing markup text from a page among a plurality of users in response to requests from said plurality of users, said method comprising:
analyzing the page to extract markup text, wherein the page includes at least the markup text and a set of code instructions to be executed as an application;
 pre-initializing a static variable of a class to contain the markup text from the page; and
loading the class containing the pre-initialized static variable into a shared, read-only memory, wherein the shared, read-only memory is accessible to said plurality of users.

Such a method is not disclosed or taught by Friesen. Friesen discloses a method that maintains information in a persistent state in memory on a machine as a single user moves from one webpage to another. (See Friesen, Abstract).

Essentially, Friesen describes a system that appears to be like one of the traditional frameworks that implementations of the pending claims are designed to help.

Basically, Friesen describes a shopping cart program that is inserted into an HTML web page to in order to maintain certain information, such as items added to a shopping cart, as a user moves from one web page to another. (See Friesen, Col. 5, lines 49-58 and Col. 6, line 60-Col. 7, line 17). To do so, Friesen takes advantage of the persistent nature of JAVA to make the shopping cart program work. For example, Friesen states that “[t]he reason that the persistence works is because JAVA applets are in an active state for as long as the HTML page in which they are loaded is on the browser screen. When a jump is made to another page, then the applets that were loaded on the previous page become inactive. However, unless there is a shortage of memory, they are not unloaded. Whenever the browser returns to an applet’s page, then the particular applet for that page is not usually reloaded, but rather it is changed from an inactive or suspended state back again to an active state.” (See Friesen Col., 7, lines 18-29).

Friesen is able to implement its shopping cart framework because Java can activate or suspend processes as users move from page to page. Friesen however makes no effort to conserve memory by “pre-initializing” and “loading” shared information into a common location for other users or sessions. In fact, Friesen uses the default JVM memory management techniques, which implementations of Claim 1 improve upon. For example, Friesen states “persistence is linked to the JVM” (See Col. 8, lines 23) and “if the applet is inactive, and memory is needed for other Java programming, then the virtual machine will overwrite the program.” (See Col. 8, lines 32-34).

In contrast, the pending application describes techniques for sharing information among multiple users in order to improve efficiency and scalability of programs executed by a web server. The pending claims recite a technique that conserves by “loading the class containing the pre-initialized static variable into a shared, read-only memory,

wherein the shared, read-only memory is accessible to said plurality of users,” Friesen
does not.

Thus, Friesen clearly differs from at least the last element recited in Claim 1. For at least this reason, the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Dependent Claims 2, 9 and 10 depend from Claim 1, and hence, incorporate all of the limitations of Claim 1. These claims also recite further advantageous aspects of the invention. The Applicants submit that Claims 2, 9, and 10 are patentable over Friesen for at least the same reasons as those given above in connection with Claim 1.

Independent Claim 5 recites a “pre-initializing” and “loading” step. For at least the same reasons as set forth above, Claim 5 is also patentable over Friesen. Dependent Claims 6, 11, and 12 depend from Claim 5, and hence, incorporate all of the limitations of Claim 5. These claims also recite further advantageous aspects of the invention. The Applicants submit that Claims 6, 11, and 12 are patentable over Friesen for at least the same reasons as those given above in connection with Claim 5.

Claims 15 and 19 are a computer-readable storage medium claim which contains limitation reasonably analogous to Claim 1 and 5 respectively. The Applicants submit that Claims 15 and 19, along with their Dependent Claims 16-18 and 20-22 are patentable over Friesen for at least the same reasons as given above.


CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is believed next in order, and that action is most earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages or credit any overages to Deposit Account
No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,
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